

Faculty Representative Guidelines for the Morris K. Udall Scholarship Nomination Process



THE **Morris K. Udall** FOUNDATION
SCHOLARSHIP AND EXCELLENCE IN NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

Mission of the Foundation

Morris King Udall's career was distinguished by civility, integrity, and consensus. Consistent with these values, the Udall Foundation is committed to increasing awareness of the importance of the nations natural resources.

Purpose of the Scholarship

- To honor Congressman Udall's legacy of public service.
- To encourage the continued use, enjoyment, and exploration of our nation's rich and bountiful natural resources.
- To develop resources to train Native Americans and Alaska Natives in the areas of health care and tribal public policy.
- To develop resources to train professionals in environmental issues.

Qualities of Nominees

Strong commitment to improving or preserving the environment.

For Native American or Alaska Natives, a strong commitment to health care or tribal public policy.

Potential for significant future contribution in his or her chosen field.

Up to **\$5,000** awarded to approximately 80 scholars.



Who is a Typical Udall Scholar?

Because environmental issues can be approached in a multidisciplinary way, the scholarship is offered to students from a broad range of disciplines. Majors have included environmental engineering, agriculture, biology and other natural sciences, natural resource management, political science, sociology, anthropology, geography, cultural studies, history, public policy, and pre-law. Likewise, Native American and Alaska Native scholars have come from such backgrounds as American Indian studies, philosophy, political science, sociology, tribal policy, economic development, government, health care, health sciences, and health policy. It is anticipated that the candidate's plan of study will include coursework in ethics and public policy and/or public or community service experience in the area of the candidate's career fields.

Who is Eligible?

Two-year and four-year institutions are eligible to nominate a total of six students from either or both categories, although it is recommended that the total be equally divided between them. (If you wish to nominate more than six students, please contact the Foundation. We will consider all requests on a case by case basis.) To be considered, a student must be nominated by his or her college or university using the official nomination materials provided to each institution. Only sophomores and juniors are eligible.

"Sophomore" is defined as a student who plans two more years of full-time undergraduate study beginning in the fall semester. "Junior" is defined as a student who plans one more year of full-time undergraduate study beginning in the fall semester. The status as indicated on the institution nomination form will be binding in all cases. Scholars selected during their sophomore year may be renominated by their institution during the next year's competition. Nominees who were not selected from last year's competition may be nominated again.

In the case of scholarships in the areas of tribal policy and health care, nominees must be Native American or Alaska Native. For the purposes of the Udall Scholarship Program, a Native American or Alaska Native is any individual who is (1) a member of an Indian tribe or band, as membership is defined by the tribe or band, including any tribe or band terminated since 1940 and any tribe recognized by the state in which the tribe or band resides; (2) a descendent, in first or second degree, of a member of an Indian tribe or band, as membership is defined by the tribe or band; (3) considered by the Secretary of the Interior to be an Indian for any purpose; or (4) an Eskimo, Aleut, or other Alaska Native. Documentation must be provided.

Role for the Institution's President or Chancellor

Assign responsibility to a faculty member for the program. Faculty representatives are typically scholarship coordinators, directors of the honor's program, and faculty from environmental or Native American disciplines.

Establish a scholarship committee that has a broad responsibility to assist the institution and its students in competing for national competitive scholarships.

Recognize the Udall nominees and Udall Scholars at ceremonies, on press releases, etc.

Tips for Faculty Representatives

Tips for Faculty Representatives

- Understand the goals of the Udall scholarship program.
- Become familiar with the nomination process and materials.
- Vigorously recruit candidates to apply. Posters and media alerts often stimulate students to inquire about the award. Contact the Udall Foundation for extra posters to hang around campus. Be sure to write your name, contact information, and campus deadline on each poster. Post numerous ads in student newspapers and campus daily bulletins. Consider posting scholarship information on your institution's web site.
- Hold a few general Udall scholarship information sessions for interested students on campus. Invite former Udall Scholars on campus to participate
- Start the nomination process far enough in advance to ensure a wide solicitation of candidates from various departments and schools, and the selection of the best nominees.
- Involve other faculty members in identifying candidates. Consider forming a scholarship committee with faculty members from various departments.
- Contact the directors of distinguished undergraduate programs and honor programs to get them involved in the recruitment process.
- Contact the advisors of institution-sponsored honor societies, clubs, and organizations related to environmental fields, health care, public policy, and Native American affairs.
- Contact the student leaders of campus environmental and Native American clubs and have them announce the scholarship at their weekly meetings.
- Interviews with potential nominees often help identify strong candidates as well as make the students articulate accomplishments and goals.
- Encourage candidates to begin early preparation for the competition.
- Aid candidates in defining their educational and career goals in relation to the goals of the Udall scholarship program.
- Set an internal deadline a few weeks before the nominations are due. Work with the students on improving the application. Nominees should have a few individuals look over their application and proofread the essay. They should then use this time to make necessary improvements.
- If writing a letter of recommendation for more than one nominee, be sure to clearly distinguish the accomplishments and qualifications of each individual.
- Read the letters of recommendation before forwarding them to the review committee.
- Distinguished representatives from higher education serve on the review committee and draw conclusions about candidates and their nominating institutions on the basis of the nomination materials.
- Keep in mind that the nomination process can be time consuming for faculty representatives and students. We often hear that students learn and benefit a great deal from this process regardless of the outcome.

"It was with great honor that I accepted this scholarship, which helped to make my dreams more tangible. ...I am proud beyond words to be a part of the vision that Mr. Udall promoted during his life."

**Meleesa Johnson, 1999 Udall Scholar
University of Wisconsin, Green Bay**



Nomination Materials

Enclosed are the nomination materials. Also, refer to www.udall.gov, which contains PDF versions of the forms. The materials include the following:

Faculty Representative Materials

- *Institution Nomination Form*
This form verifies the nominee's eligibility and formally transmits the nomination to the review committee. The nomination is not valid unless this form is completed, signed by the faculty representative, and is submitted.
- *Return Receipt Postcard*
If you want confirmation of receipt of your nomination(s), enter your name and address on the front of this postcard, affix postage, and return it with the other nomination materials.
- *One Preaddressed Return Envelope*
An envelope for submission of your nomination(s) is included.

Student Nomination Materials

Please photocopy these forms, or print from www.udall.gov, for use during the nomination process. Nominees may submit completed applications on photocopied materials, but all applications must have original signatures. Each student booklet contains the following:

- *Nominee Information Form*
- *Nominee's Essay*
- *Three Independent Evaluation of Nominee Forms*
Three letters of recommendation are required to assess the nominee's personal characteristics, motivation, and interest in fields relating to the environment, Native American health care, or tribal public policy. Faculty representatives may write one of the letters.
- *Nominee Survey*
This form solicits race and national origin data to be used solely for statistical purposes. Response is voluntary and will have no effect on the nominee's scholarship application.

Note: Nominees should submit official transcripts in a sealed envelope to Udall faculty representatives for submission with the rest of the nomination materials.

Tips for Nominees

Tips for Nominees

- Familiarize yourself with the Udall Foundation and the scholarship by exploring www.udall.gov.
- Start the nomination process early and put significant thought into your responses.
- Submit an application that is complete, neat, and accurate. Proofread, avoid small fonts, and use spellcheck.
- Fill in the application online at www.udall.gov or use a typewriter. Handwritten applications will not be accepted.
- Present thoughtful responses to the questions on the nominee information form. Relate experiences that support commitment to the goals of the program.
- Write a well-defined, focused career goal statement.
- Refrain from reiterating the same experiences throughout the application.
- Prepare a carefully constructed, well-researched response to the essay question. Research resources are available at www.udall.gov and at <http://dizzy.library.arizona.edu/branches/spc/udall/homepage.html>
- Select carefully those who will submit evaluations. The best evaluations are from faculty members in the candidate's field of study who know the candidate well and are able to attest to his or her accomplishments and potential. Form letters, lacking a personal knowledge of the candidate, reflect negatively on both the candidate and the institution. It would be helpful to aid them by submitting a resume and a list of reasons why the scholarship is a good fit.
- Nominees should submit official transcripts in a sealed envelope to Udall faculty representatives for submission with the rest of the nomination materials.



Submission of Nominations

It is the student's responsibility to submit the nominee information form, nominee's essay, official college transcript(s), and three letters of evaluation to the faculty representative. The faculty representative will combine these pieces with the institution nomination form and submit the completed package to the Morris K. Udall scholarship program. All materials must be submitted by the faculty representative. Incomplete nominations and materials received directly from the student will not be considered.



"I enjoyed meeting and collaborating with other enthusiastic and visionary individuals. Who knows, maybe one of us will be the next Mo Udall."

**Linus Chen, 1997 Udall Scholar
Boston University**

**Nominations must be
received by March 3**

Morris K. Udall Scholarship Program

Address before January 1, 2003:
110 South Church Avenue, Suite 3350
Tucson, AZ 85701-7617

Address after January 1, 2003:
130 South Scott Avenue
Tucson, AZ 85701-1922

Phone: (520) 670-5542

Fax: (520) 670-5530

www.udall.gov



Photo by Chris Mooney



"Morris K. Udall worked to provide a better life for Native American peoples. Earning the privilege of being a Udall Scholar provided me with the opportunity to meet many individuals who were touched by his life. Being a part of such an important legacy has further motivated me to achieve my goal of providing superior primary health care."

**Waseya Cornell
1997, 1998 Udall Scholar
Michigan State University**